GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:65
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2000
DECLARATION OF NEW PILGRIM CENTRES
P.C. THOMAS;V. SAROJA

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to declare new pilgrim centres in the country from the point of view of tourism development;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the schemes of development being prepared for them;

(c) the position of Sabarimala, Erumely, Guruvayoor, Bharanaganam, Varkala, Kanjiramattam, Parumala, Manjanikkara and Malayattoor in Kerala as Pilgrim centres;

(d) whether the Government have made any study about these centres;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the total number of pilgrims visiting each of these centres during each of the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e) & (f) : A Statement is laid on the table of Sabha.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.65 ANSWERED ON 23-11-2000 REGARDING DECLARATION OF NEW PILGRIM CENTRES.

(a): No Sir,

(b): Does not arise.

(c): The development of tourism infrastructure including that of Pilgrim Centres is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned. However, the Central Department of Tourism extends financial assistance for specific projects prioritized in consultation with the State Government/U.T.(Admn.) every year. The details of the Projects Sanctioned in some of these pilgrim centres are given below:

Sl. No.	Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. In Lakhs)
i.	1988-89	Tourist Resort at Varkala	Rs. 90.00
ii.	1992-93	Tourist Lodge at Guruvayoor	Rs. 49.50
iii.	1994-95	Yatri Niwas at Malayatoor	Rs. 34.56
iv.	1998-99	Construction of Pilgrim Facilitation Centre at Sabarimala i.e. construction of Dormitary, Rooms, Dining Hall etc.	Rs.104.89

(d),&(e) No Sir, however, the Government of Kerala informed that Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode is conducting a study on Guruvayoor.

(f): The place wise tourist arrival figures are not maintained. However, the estimated tourist traffic to the State of Kerala for the last three years is given below:-

Year	Domestic	Foreign

1997	4953401	182427
1998	4481714	189941
1999	5063143	194175